

Message Text

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ACTION INT-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 PM-07 PA-03 L-03 IO-13 SS-15

PRS-01 /062 W

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R 070921Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6586

INFO COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO

COMPACREP GUAM TTPI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 11547

DEPT PASS INTERIOR FOR DOTA AND OSN

COMTWELVE FOR AMB WILLIAMS

CINCPAC GUAM/TTPI PASS STATUS LNO SAIPAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR JA TQ

SUBJECT: JAPAN-MICRONESIA ASSOCIATION

REF: A) STATE 132764; B) TOKYO 9597; C) TOKYO 10519

1. SUMMARY: FONOFF INFORMED EMBASSY THAT SPONSORS OF JAPAN-MICRONESIA ASSOCIATION PLAN TO PROCEED WITH FORMATION OF QTE VOLUNTARY UNQTE ASSOCIATION BUT AWAIT GOJ CONCURRENCE BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO SET-UP FULL-FLEDGED OFFICIAL ORGANIZATION. ACTION REQUESTED/: DEPT'S INSTRUCTIONS ON FURTHER ACTION. END SUMMARY.

2. FONOFF (FIRST NA DIV, NUMATA) INFORMED EMBASSY SEPTEMBER 6 THAT SPONSORS OF JAPAN-MICRONESIA ASSOCIATION, AFTER CONSIDERING POINTS FONOFF MADE WITH THEM CONCERNING POLITICAL LIABILITIES OF FOUNDING ASSOCIATION DURING STATUS NEGOTIATION (REF C) HAVE DECIDED TO PROCEED WITH FORMATION OF QTE VOLUNTARY UNQTE ASSOCIATION. VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION WOULD NOT RPT NOT REQUIRE GOJ APPROVAL WHEREAS JURIDICAL FULL-FLEDGED ORGANIZATION WOULD REQUIRE GOJ APPROVAL AND ENDORSEMENT. SPONSORS
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PLAN TO SEEK JURIDICAL STATUS LATER, WHEN GOJ AMENABLE.

SPONSORS EXPLAINED TO FONOFF THEIR CONCERN THAT MOMENTUM ALREADY GAINED IN JAPANESE CIRCLES PRIOR TO USG REPRESENTATION IN JULY (REF B) WOULD BE LOST IF THEY DID NOT RPT NOT PROCEED IN SOME MEASURE. NUMATA EXPECTS SPONSORS INTEND TO FORM ASSOCIATION WITHIN A MONTH.

3. NUMATA ADVISED SPONSORS QTE IF SPONSORS START AS VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATION GOJ WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE IN POSITION TO STOP THEM BUT WOULD ALSO NOT RPT NOT ENDORSE ORGANIZATION. UNQTE. NUMATA ASKED THAT SPONSORS REMAIN IN TOUCH AND KEEP PUBLICITY AT LOWEST PROFILE POSSIBLE.

4. NUMATA CONTENDED THAT FONOFF IN DELICATE POSITION SINCE SPONSORS DO NOT RPT NOT NEED GOJ APPROVAL TO PROCEED AS THEY NOW PLAN. FONOFF ALSO STILL HAMPERED BY DELICACY OF USG POSITION. EMBOFF INQUIRED AS TO WHAT LEVERAGE GOJ NOW HAS, ASKING IF SPONSORS' DESIRE FOR GOJ ENDORSEMENT IN FUTURE DID NOT RPT NOT STILL PROVIDE LEVERAGE TO DETER THEM. NUMATA REPLIED THAT FONOFF HAS NO RPT NO LEVERAGE AND FONOFF IS WORRIED THAT ATTEMPTING TO EXERT FURTHER PRESSURE TO STALL SPONSORS MIGHT BACKFIRE AND LEAD SPONSORS TO TRY TO PUBLICIZE ISSUE.

5. WHETHER ASSOCIATION IS VOLUNTARY OR OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT DIFFERENCE AND EFFECTS ARE NOT RPT NOT GREAT. FONOFF URGING SPONSORS TO MAINTAIN LOW PUBLICITY PROFILE IS OF SOME BUT PROBABLY MARGINAL VALUE. NOW THAT SPONSORS HAVE DISCOVERED MEANS TO CIRCUMVENT GOJ ENDORSEMENT, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THEY WILL PROCEED. WE DOUBT THAT ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATIONS TO FONOFF WILL BE EFFECTIVE UNLESS COUCHED IN INSISTENT TERMS. WE BELIEVE DEPARTMENT IN BEST POSITION TO WEIGH CONCERNS OVER MICRONESIA AND MORE AGGRESSIVE OPPOSITION TO FOUNDING ASSOCIATION HERE WHICH CONCEIVABLY MIGHT RESULT IN PUBLICITY IN MICRONESIA MORE HARMFUL TO THE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS THAN THE ASSOCIATION ITSELF.
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6. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON DANGERS OF QTE VOLUNTARY UNQTE ASSOCIATION VIS-A-VIS STATUS NEGOTIATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS ON WHETHER WE SHOULD PURSUE MATTER WITH INSISTENT DEMARCHE OR BY OTHER MEANS .
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